REMARKS

This preliminary amendment is submitted simultaneous with the filing of a 37 CFR 1.53(b) continuation application on pending Application Serial No. 09/749,596, filed December 28, 2000.

The title and abstract have been amended to better reflect the invention to which the present application is directed.

As originally filed, the parent '596 application included claims 1-52. Claims 2-52 have been canceled in the filing request for the present continuation application. Claim 1 is canceled and new claims 53-75 are added by this preliminary amendment.

The new claims are directed to the delivery of electronic greeting cards with funds attached. No new matter is added.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that the application is in condition for allowance and an early indication of the same is courteously solicited. The Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned by telephone at the below listed local telephone number, in order to expedite resolution of any remaining issues and further to expedite passage of the application to issue, if any further comments, questions or suggestions arise in connection with the application.

Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account 12-0429 and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

LALOS & KEEGAN

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Registration No. 30,226

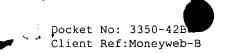1146 Nineteenth Street, N.W.
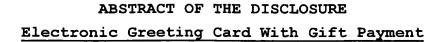Fifth Floor
Washington, D.C. 20036-3703
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DATE: May 8, 2001

For. # 703 312 6600

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE
Electronic Greeting Card With Gift Payment

A method, system and article of manufacture for making a monetary gift. The system includes a communications port, a memory, and a processor. The processor functions to perform the method of the present invention. A request to make a monetary gift to a recipient on behalf of a donor is received. An input associated with an electronic greeting card is also received. The request and the input are processed to generate the electronic greeting card with a notification of the gift. The electronic greeting card is transmitted to the recipient, and the gift is credited to the recipient's bank account.